



MacBook Unibody Model A1278 Optical Drive Replacement

Written By: Walter Galan



INTRODUCTION

This guide will show you how to replace the SuperDrive from your laptop (requires a SATA SuperDrive).



TOOLS:

- [Phillips #00 Screwdriver](#) (1)
- [Spudger](#) (1)



PARTS:

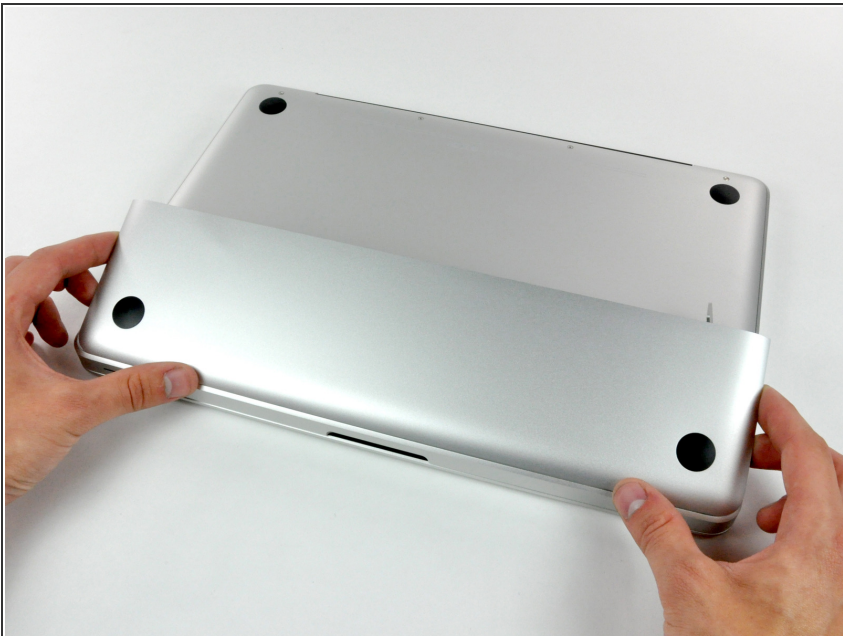
- [MacBook Unibody \(Model No. A1278\) 8x SATA SuperDrive \(Used\)](#) (1)
- [MacBook Unibody \(Model No. A1278\) SATA SuperDrive Cable](#) (1)
- [SATA USB Adapter](#) (1)
- [Unibody 8x SATA SuperDrive \(Pre-Mid 2009\)](#) (1)

Step 1 — Access Door



- With the case closed, place the Unibody top-side down on a flat surface.
- Depress the grooved side of the access door release latch enough to grab the free end. Lift the release latch until it is vertical.

Step 2



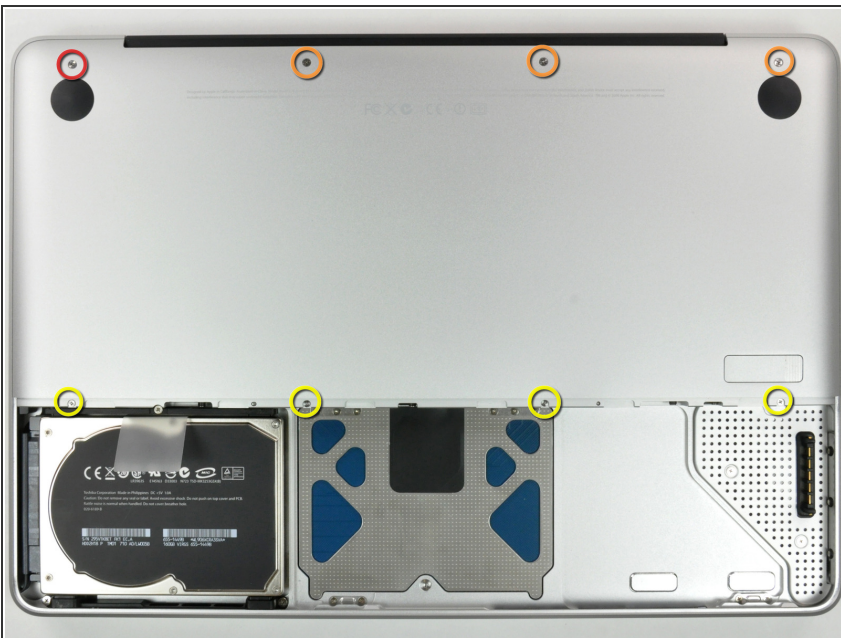
- The access door should now be raised enough to lift it up and out of the Unibody.

Step 3 — Battery



- ❗ Be sure the access door release latch is vertical before proceeding.
- Grab the white plastic tab and pull the battery up and out of the Unibody.

Step 4 — Lower Case



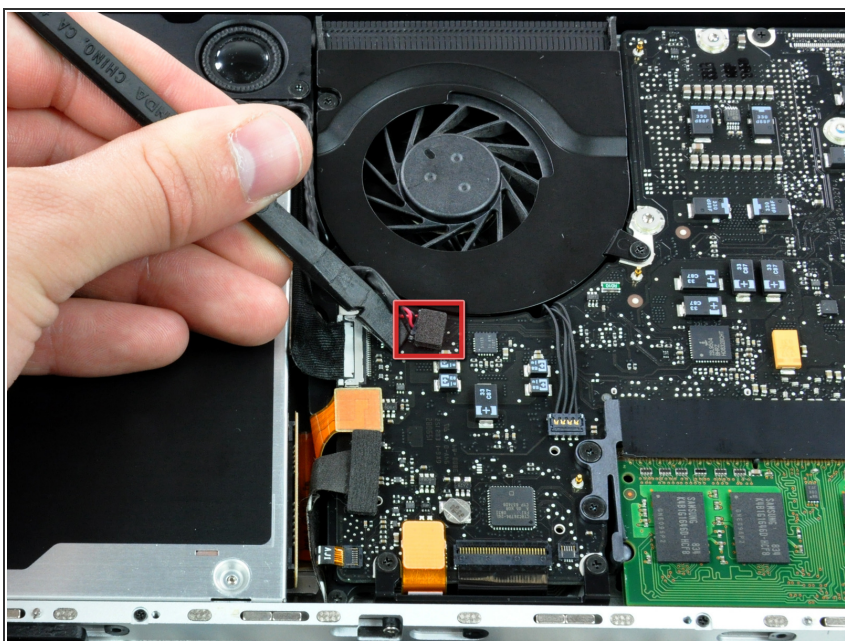
- Remove the following eight screws securing the lower case to the chassis:
 - One 3 mm Phillips screw.
 - Three 13.5 mm Phillips screws.
 - Four 3.5 mm Phillips screws.

Step 5



- Using both hands, lift and remove the lower case off the upper case.

Step 6 — Optical Drive



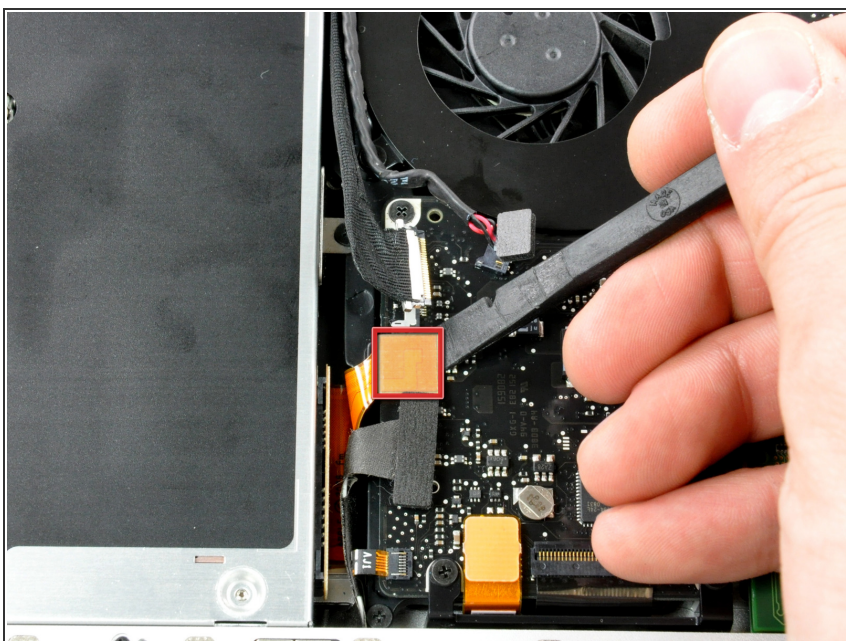
- Using the flat end of a spudger, pry the subwoofer connector straight up off the logic board.

Step 7



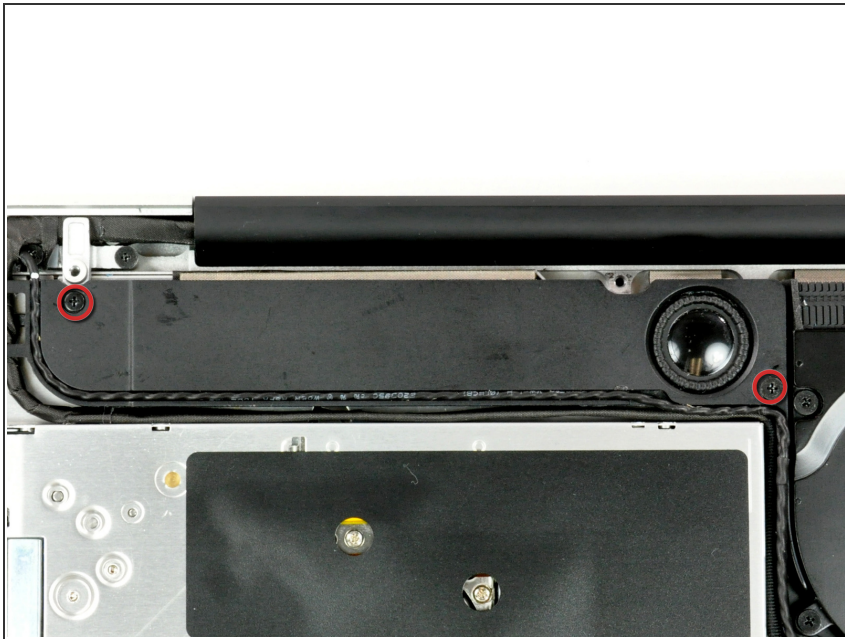
- Disconnect the camera cable by pulling the male end straight away from its socket.

Step 8



- Use a spudger to pry the optical drive connector straight up off the logic board.

Step 9



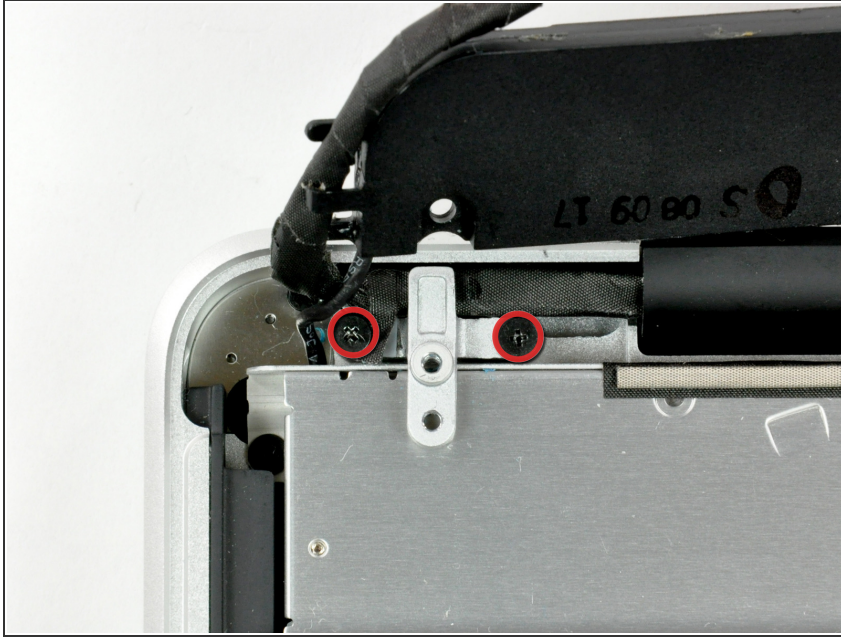
- Remove the two Phillips screws securing the subwoofer to the upper case.
- ⓘ The longer of the two screws is on the right.

Step 10



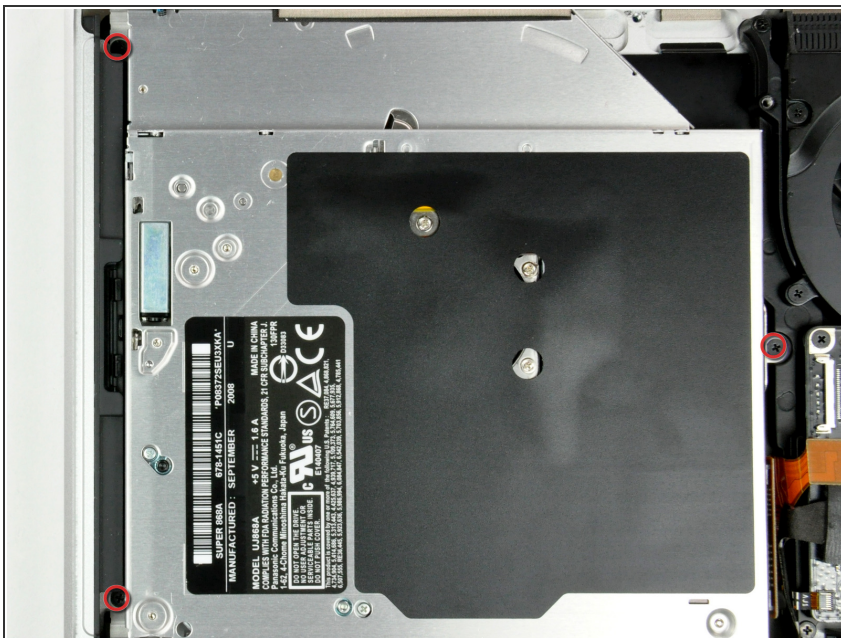
- ⓘ The subwoofer is still connected to the right speaker, so don't completely remove it just yet.
- Lift the subwoofer off the optical drive, and set it above the computer.

Step 11



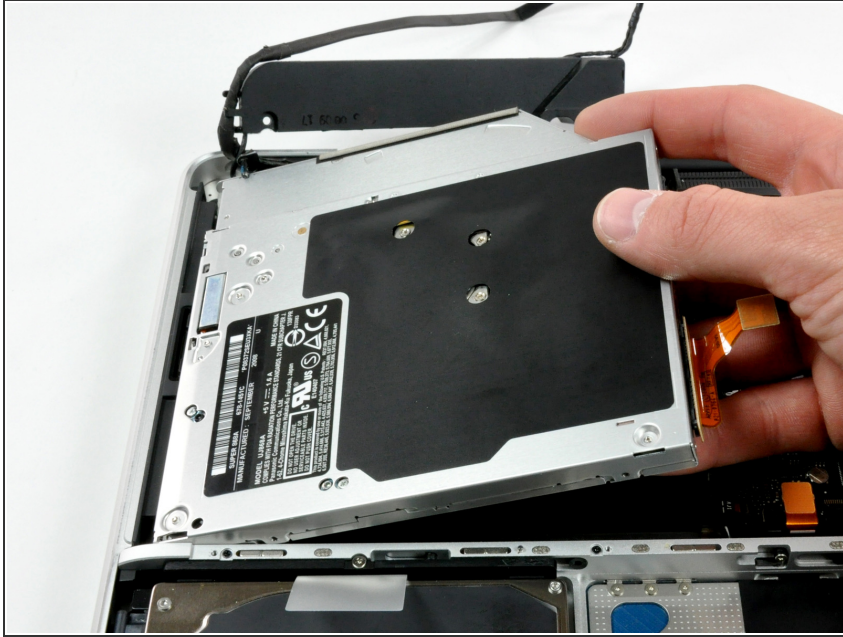
- Remove the two Phillips screws securing the camera cable bracket to the upper case.
- ⓘ The leftmost screw may remain captive in the camera cable.

Step 12



- Remove the three 2.5 mm Phillips screws securing the optical drive to the upper case.

Step 13



- Lift the optical drive from its right edge and pull it out of the computer.

★ The hard drive cable may become disconnected from the logic board when removing the optical drive. Ensure it is connected during reassembly.

Step 14 — Optical Drive



- Remove the optical drive cable by pulling it straight away from the optical drive.

i This connector is particularly deep, so be sure to pull away from the drive at the center of the connector.

i If you have a CD or any other object jammed in your optical drive, we have an [optical drive repair guide](#).

Step 15



- Remove the two black Phillips #0 screws securing the small metal mounting bracket. Transfer this bracket to your new optical drive or [hard drive enclosure](#).

To reassemble your device, follow these instructions in reverse order.

This document was last generated on 2017-07-31 11:29:23 AM.